

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-25, 27-29, and 31-36 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 3, 5-6, 9, 11, 17, 19-20, 25, 27, 29, 33, and 35 are currently amended to clarify the present invention as embodied in these claims. A complete listing of claims is provided below and supersedes all previous listing(s) of claims. No new matter has been added.

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for quiescing resource consumer activity in a computer system, comprising:

preventing a first resource consumer of a first group from starting a new activity on the computer system based upon a resource plan, in which the resource plan comprises a limit on a maximum number of active sessions for the first group; and

allowing a second resource consumer of a second group to continue an already-running activity on the computer system, in which the resource plan further comprises a second limit on a second maximum number of active sessions for the second group.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first resource consumer belongs to a first group of resource consumers, further comprising a fourth ~~second~~ group of resource consumers, wherein the first group of resource consumers is prevented from starting new activity while the second group of resource consumers is allowed to start new activity.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the prevented activity is queued.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1 for quiescing resource consumer activity in a computer system, the computer system having a first configurable value associated with a first resource consumer group, the first resource consumer group comprising one or more resource consumers, the first configurable value representing a first number of active sessions that the first resource consumer group is allowed to have running on the computer system, comprising: in which the one or more criteria comprise:

configuring the first configurable value to a quiescence value, the quiescence value being adapted to limit the number of newly active sessions for the first resource consumer group to zero, wherein all currently active sessions are allowed to continue, but no new sessions are allowed to become active.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the computer system further comprises a second configurable value associated with a fifth ~~second~~ resource consumer group, the fifth ~~second~~ resource consumer group comprising one or more resource consumers, the second configurable value being adapted to define a second number of active sessions the fifth ~~second~~ resource consumer group is allowed to have running in the computer system, further comprising:

configuring the second configurable value to a value adapted to allow one or more active sessions from the fifth ~~second~~ resource consumer group to be run while the first configurable value is set to the quiescence value.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein sessions prevented from becoming active are queued.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for quiescing a computer system, the computer system operating according to a first resource plan, comprising:

replacing the first resource plan with a second resource plan, the second resource plan comprising a first resource consumer group and a second resource consumer group, the second resource plan being adapted to prevent the first resource consumer group from starting new activity on the computer system while allowing the second resource consumer group to start new activity on the computer system, wherein the second resource plan comprises an active session limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that includes a medium useable by a processor, the medium comprising a sequence of instructions which, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to execute a method for quiescing resource consumer activity in a computer system, the method comprising:

preventing a first resource consumer of a first group from starting a new activity on the computer system based upon a resource plan, in which the resource plan comprises a limit on a maximum number of active sessions for the first group; and

allowing a second resource consumer of a second group to continue an already-running activity on the computer system, in which the resource plan further comprises a second limit on a second maximum number of active sessions for the second group.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the first resource consumer belongs to a first group of resource consumers, further comprising a fourth ~~second~~ group of resource consumers, wherein the first group of resource consumers is prevented from starting new activity while the fourth ~~second~~ group of resource consumers is allowed to start new activity.

12. (Original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the prevented activity is queued.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer program product that includes a medium useable by a processor, the medium comprising a sequence of instructions which, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to execute a method for quiescing resource consumer activity in a computer system, the computer system having a first configurable value associated with a first resource consumer group, the first resource consumer group comprising one or more resource consumers, the first configurable value representing a first number of active sessions that the first resource consumer group is allowed to have running on the computer system, the method comprising:

configuring the first configurable value to a quiescence value, the quiescence value being adapted to limit the number of newly active sessions for the first resource consumer group to zero, wherein all currently active sessions are allowed to continue, but no new sessions are allowed to become active.

14. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the computer system further comprises a second configurable value associated with a second resource consumer group, the second resource consumer group comprising one or more resource consumers, the second configurable value being adapted to define a second number of active sessions the second resource consumer group is allowed to have running in the computer system, further comprising:

configuring the second configurable value to a value adapted to allow one or more active sessions from the second resource consumer group to be run while the first configurable value is set to the quiescence value.

15. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein sessions prevented from becoming active are queued.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer program product that includes a medium useable by a processor, the medium comprising a sequence of instructions which, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to execute a method for quiescing a computer system, the computer system operating according to a first resource plan, the method comprising:

replacing the first resource plan with a second resource plan, the second resource plan comprising a first resource consumer group and a second resource consumer group, the second resource plan being adapted to prevent the first resource consumer group from starting new activity on the computer system while allowing the second resource consumer group to start new activity on the computer system, wherein the second resource plan comprises an active session limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for quiescing a user activity in a computer system, comprising:

~~a resource plan, the resource plan identifying a first resource consumer and a second resource consumer, among which a computer system resource is to be allocated, and specifying an allocation of the resource among the first resource consumer and the second resource consumer; and~~

~~a scheduler for allocating the resource among the first resource consumer and the second resource consumer according to the resource plan;~~

~~wherein the scheduler prevents the first resource consumer from starting a new activity on the computer system by setting an activity limit applicable to the first resource consumer to a prescribed value, and allows the second resource consumer to continue an already-running activity on the computer system, the activity limit comprising an active session limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions.~~

means for preventing a first resource consumer of a first group from starting a new activity on the computer system based upon a resource plan, in which the resource plan comprises a limit on a maximum number of active sessions for the first group; and

means for allowing a second resource consumer of a second group to continue an already-running activity on the computer system, in which the resource plan further comprises a second limit on a second maximum number of active sessions for the second group; and

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, ~~wherein the first resource consumer belongs to a first group of resource consumers, further comprising a second group of resource consumers, wherein the scheduler~~ a means for scheduling which prevents the first group of

resource consumers from starting new activity while allowing the second group of resource consumers ~~is allowed~~ to start new activity.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the first resource consumer ~~prevented activity~~ is queued.

21. (Presently Amended) A system of quiescing resource consumer activity in a computer system, comprising:

a resource plan, the resource plan identifying a first resource consumer group, to which a computer system resource is to be allocated, and specifying an allocation of the resource to the first resource consumer group, the resource plan having a first configurable value associated with the first resource consumer group, the first resource consumer group comprising one or more resource consumers, the first configurable value representing a first number of active sessions that the first resource consumer group is allowed to have running on the computer system; and

a scheduler for allocating the resource to the first resource consumer group according to the resource plan;

wherein the first configurable value is configured to a quiescence value, the quiescence value being adapted to limit the number of newly active sessions for the first resource consumer group to zero, wherein all currently active sessions are allowed to continue, but no new sessions are allowed to become active.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the computer system further comprises a second configurable value associated with a second resource consumer group, the second resource consumer group comprising one or more resource consumers, the second configurable value being adapted to define a second number of active sessions that the second resource consumer group is allowed to have running in the computer system, wherein the second configurable value is configured to a value adapted to allow one or more active sessions from the

second resource consumer group to be run, while the first configurable value is set to the quiescence value.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein sessions prevented from becoming active are queued.

24. (Previously Presented) A system for quiescing a computer system, comprising:

a resource plan, the resource plan comprising a first resource consumer group and a second resource consumer group, the resource plan being adapted to prevent the first resource consumer group from starting a new activity on the computer system while allowing the second resource consumer group to start a new activity on the computer system, wherein the second resource plan comprises an active session limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions; and

a scheduler for allocating the resource to the first resource consumer group and the second resource consumer group, as directed by the resource plan.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the prescribed value~~ in which the limit on the maximum number of active sessions is zero.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 9, ~~wherein the prescribed value~~ in which the limit on the maximum number of active sessions is zero.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, ~~wherein~~ in which the limit on the maximum number of active sessions ~~prescribed value~~ is zero.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~47~~, wherein the number of active sessions is limited not to exceed the limit ~~prescribed value~~.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the number of active sessions of the first resource consumer group is limited not to exceed the active session limit.
33. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the number of active sessions is limited not to exceed the limit ~~prescribed value~~.
34. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the number of active sessions of the first resource consumer group is limited not to exceed the active session limit.
35. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 16 ~~47~~, wherein the number of active sessions is limited not to exceed the prescribed value.
36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the number of active sessions of the first resource consumer group is limited not to exceed the active session limit.